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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 50169/105

RECEIVED

JAN 08 1997

In re patent application of

Wallace T.Y. TANG

Serial No. 08/401,229

Group Art Unit: 2501

Filed: March 9, 1995

Examiner: J. Lee

For: IN-SITU REAL-TIME MONITORING TECHNIQUE AND APPARATUS FOR  
ENDPOINT DETECTION OF THIN FILMS DURING  
CHEMICAL/MECHANICAL POLISHING PLANARIZATION

GROUP 2501

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within three (3) months of discovery of the cited references.

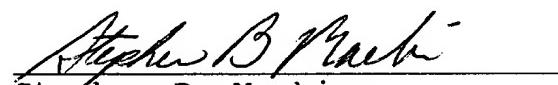
CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)

The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

January 9, 1997  
Date

  
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Stephen B. Maebius  
Registration No. 35,264

FOLEY & LARDNER  
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20007-5109  
Telephone: (202) 672-5569